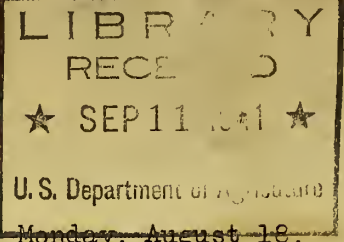


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CHICK HATCHERY AND FARM LABOR REPORTS

Broadcast by Jack Towers, Agricultural Marketing Service, ~~Monday, August 18,~~ 1941, in the Department of Agriculture period, National Farm and Home Hour, over stations associated with the blue network of the National Broadcasting Company.

--ooOoo--

KADDERLY:

And here in Washington we're going to review first of all two reports recently issued by the Department of Agriculture.....one deals with July chick hatchery production; the other is the August 1st farm labor situation. Jack Towers of the Agricultural Marketing Service will give us the news contained in these two reports. First, the hatchery report.

TOWERS:

It looks very much like the commercial hatchery industry is going to produce a billion chicks this year!

KADDERLY:

A billion! That will be mighty close to a production record, won't it?

TOWERS:

It will be a record. Never before have our chick hatcheries hit the billion mark. The big chick season began last April when the Department of Agriculture asked poultrymen to increase the production of eggs. That created a tremendous demand for baby chicks. All during May and June the hatcheries did all they could to fill this demand. They produced about 100 million more chicks than usual. That was in May and June.

July brought another 28 and one quarter million chicks. That's one-third more than we produced last July.

Reports from all over the United States show that farms are raising almost 787 million chickens. -- Then town flocks and commercial broiler areas will add about 200 million -- and that will make just about a billion chickens for this year.

KADDERLY:

All right, Jack -- that takes care of the very favorable hatchery report. Now a few facts about our farm labor situation.

TOWERS:

On August first there were over 10 and a half million persons working on our American farms.

KADDERLY:

That's less than last month.

TOWERS:

Yes, a million and a quarter less farm workers than on the first of July. We had a bigger drop on August first last year but we have generally less farm workers this year -- So the drop of a million and a quarter between July first and by August first this year has placed our farm employment at the lowest figure since we began keeping track back in 1925.

(over)

KADDERLY:

Do all sections of the country have fewer farm workers than they had last year?

TOWERS:

On August first, all areas had fewer farm workers except the West North Central, the Mountain, and the Pacific Coast States.

KADDERLY:

When you speak of "farm workers" Jack, are you including members of farm families.

TOWERS:

Yes, indeed. Family workers out number the hired workers almost 3 to 1. There are less family workers this year and about the same number of hired workers as there were last year -- So probably quite a few family workers are now being paid for their work.

And the workers are doing a good job, too, because we have been able to carry on normal agricultural operations with a smaller number of workers.

Incidentally, farm workers on July first were averaging about \$45 a month without board. And that, Wallace, completes our picture of the farm labor situation as of August first.

KADDERLY:

Very well, Jack.

Jack Towers has brought us the highlights of reports on July chick hatchery production and the August first farm labor situation -- released last Friday by the Agricultural Marketing Service.

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